

The American taxpayers are entitled to a fair accounting and an objective review of the underlying science that supports many of the very expensive recovery plans, particularly the salmon supplementation and habitat restoration programs, that will be developed by the States and participating Tribes.

The peer review requirement in this bill will provide the reasonable assurances of competency for those expensive programs that the taxpayer deserves.

Again, I thank my colleagues from Idaho, California, and Oregon for their strong support and commitment to include Idaho in the quest to achieve successful salmon recovery in the West and for their tireless efforts over the last several months to draft the appropriate legislative framework in which to accomplish the complex task of recovering those marvelous and important fish.

TOP GOVERNMENT ETHICS AWARD

Mr. ROCKFELLER. Mr. President, today I am proud to highlight the recognition given to the Department of Veterans Affairs for the outstanding job they have done and the recognition they are receiving for their employee ethics programs.

The Office of Government Ethics has announced that VA's Office of General Counsel received their Outstanding Ethics Program Award. The award was presented on December 13 by Amy Comstock, the director of the ethics office.

VA has the largest centralized ethics program in the Federal Government and is the second largest Federal department with 219,000 employees scattered nationwide and hundreds of facilities. Ethics issues are administered through the Office of General Counsel, both in VA's central office and through its 23 regional counsel office, who review financial disclosure reports and conduct annual ethics training. These efforts are supported by human resources staff.

In addition, VA's ethics issues are particularly complex. VA's mission is so broad and many of its employees have outside activities. For example, many VA physicians are also on faculty at affiliated universities and conduct outside research.

It is critical that our Federal agencies live up to the expectations of the Americans people, particularly of the nation's veterans whom we serve. This award demonstrates how a centralized and proactive approach can yield tremendous results. I am pleased to see VA's efforts being recognized.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REAR ADMIRAL (SELECT) PATRICK W. DUNNE, USN

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain

Patrick W. Dunne, United States Navy, as he departs the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs and assumes command of U.S. Naval Forces in Guam. Captain Dunne is a Naval Officer of the finest caliber who has established an impeccable reputation in the Navy and with the Congress through his multiple tours as a Congressional Liaison.

A career submariner, Captain Dunne graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1973. As a junior officer, he has served with distinction at sea, both in the fast attack submarines USS *Batish* and USS *Baton Rouge*, and the fleet ballistic missile submarine USS *Nathanael Greene*. In May 1985, Captain Dunne was selected as Naval Aide to President Reagan. In addition to his normal duties, he was responsible for the coordination of all military support for the Reykjavik Summit with President Gorbachev. Following this eventful tour, Captain Dunne assumed command of the attack submarine USS *Baltimore*, home ported in Norfolk, VA. During his command, *Baltimore* completed a deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and the operational evaluation of one of the Navy's newest submarine sonar systems.

Captain Dunne then began his first of three tours at the Navy's Office of Legislative Affairs as the Congressional Liaison Officer for Submarine Programs. Following this tour, Captain Dunne returned to sea, assuming command of the submarine tender USS *Frank Cable* home ported in Charleston, South Carolina. Under his command, *Frank Cable* was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation for its exceptional support of the submarines assigned to Submarine Squadron Four. Subsequent staff tours include serving as the Head, Plans and Programs for the Director, Submarine Warfare on the Chief of Naval Operations' staff, and his second tour in the Office of Legislative Affairs, this time as the Director of Naval Programs. Captain Dunne was next selected to serve as the Chief of Naval Operations' Special Assistant for Joint Matters and he then returned to the Office of Legislative Affairs for the third time as the Deputy Chief of Legislative Affairs.

The Department of the Navy, Congress, and the American people have been served well by this dedicated naval officer. Members of this Congress will not soon forget the leadership, service, and dedication of Captain Pat Dunne. He will be missed. We wish Pat, and his lovely wife Dianne, our very best as he continues his already distinguished career.●

BERNICE FOX

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to recognize a long-time New Mexican, Bernice Fox, who is retiring after an amazing record of service in the public and private sectors. Her work in these areas has spanned 63 years, a most remarkable achievement.

Bernice Fox, born in Bloomington, Illinois in 1920, has lived in New Mexico

for almost 40 years. In the private sector, she owned and operated motels and apartments, and she worked as a legal secretary for several New Mexican attorneys.

In 1993, instead of enjoying the retirement that most of us would be seeking at the age of 73, Bernice Fox began still another career in support of the Department of Energy at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico. She was present to witness the opening of that remarkable facility, the world's only permanent repository for transuranic radioactive wastes.

Now Bernice Fox is planning to retire from the Department of Energy at the end of this year. I salute her for her long service to the citizens of New Mexico and the nation. Whether her next career involves real retirement or still another challenge, I salute Bernice Fox on her long history of contributions.

Bernice Fox is being honored with her own special day by proclamation of the Governor of New Mexico. It is only fitting that Congress further honor her with this statement today.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE A. BANDOVERES

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to George Bandoveres of Rollinsford, NH, for being honored with World War II medals for acts of bravery. George, a veteran of the U.S. Army, served his country with honor during World War II.

I admire the many veterans who have served America with courage and devotion. My own father, a naval aviator, was killed in a World War II related incident days before my fourth birthday.

As a Vietnam veteran, I admire the heroism of George Bandoveres. The medals he so bravely earned while serving in the 103rd Infantry Division are a tribute to his service to our Nation.

George was active in World War II campaigns including: Sicily, Naples-Foggia, Rome-Arno, southern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. For his services he received military medals including: Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal with bronze and silver service stars and a bronze service arrowhead, Combat Infantryman Badge and Honorable Service Lapel Button.

I was honored to help George secure the medals he acquired while serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. His courage and devotion to America are to be commended. It is truly an honor and a privilege to represent him in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN P. BARBA

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Steve Barba of Dixville Notch, NH,